

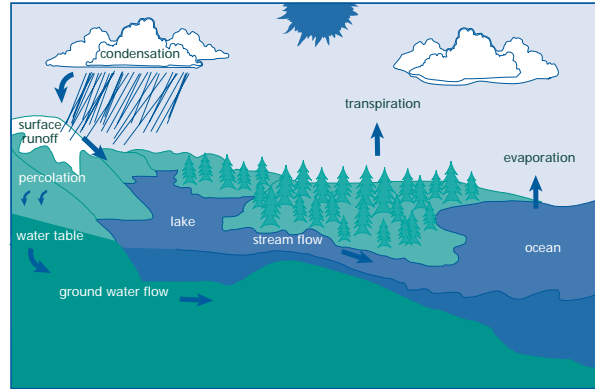


# Source Water Awareness

Funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's  
Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water

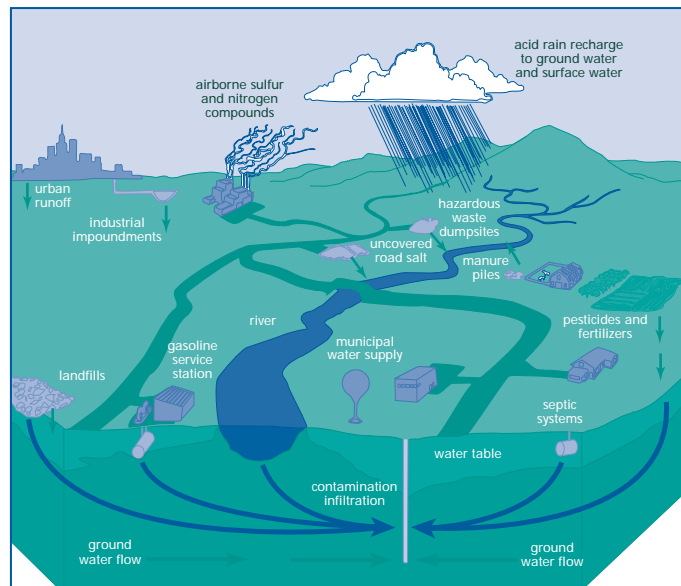


## Where Does the Water that We Drink Come From?



Our drinking water comes from water flowing on the earth's surface in rivers, lakes, and streams; and also from water beneath the earth's surface, in underground aquifers. Our drinking water is constantly moving between the air, the earth's surface and beneath the earth's surface. Water beneath the earth's surface moves at a much slower rate.

## Sources of Contamination to Our Water Supply



Some of the things we do on land can pose threats to our water supply and make it unsafe to drink.

## Simple Steps to Help Protect Our Water Supply

- Dispose of household and other chemicals properly. That is, don't pour chemicals on the ground or down the sink drain, toilet, or storm drain.
- Take used motor oil to the recycling center.
- Use only recommended amounts of fertilizers and pesticides.
- Have our unused wells properly closed.
- Pump and inspect our septic tank regularly.
- Plant vegetation on bare spots of the soil, particularly on slopes, to prevent erosion and excessive runoff of sediments into nearby water bodies.
- Become involved in drinking water protection activities in our community.

